

ESF 8 EXERCISE

Department of Health & Hospitals

Spring 2013

2013 ESF 8 Functional Exercise

On June 25th and 26th, ESF 8 will be conducting a state-wide functional exercise to test protocols and systems used by healthcare facilities. We are asking that all hospitals, nursing homes and adult residential care facilities in the state to participate during this two-day event.

Expectations

Every healthcare facility will be asked to provide updates on their operations and census during the two-day period.

Q: What kind of Updates?

A: The updates are similar to those you provide during a real emergency, using EMSTAT and other ESF 8 systems.

Q: Will I be asked to do other things?

A: We will ask for a small number of volunteers to simulate the following scenarios:

- Patient evacuations
- Power outages
- Other critical supply outages

Q: Will facilities be able to give feedback after the exercise?

A: Yes. All participants will be given an opportunity to submit their feedback as well as participate in an AAR conference that will be held a few weeks after the exercise.

Objectives

- To assess the ability of all ESF 8 stakeholders to follow protocols and effectively use the ESF 8 information systems during a simulated disaster.
- To train all ESF 8 stakeholders on the new version of EMSTAT. This exercise will follow a series of regional trainings and give healthcare facilities a chance to reinforce the training in a simulated disaster environment.



About the Exercise

- It will occur over two days:
 - ⇒ June 25nd from 8am to 4pm
 - ⇒ June 26th from 8am to noon.
- You can train on the new EMSTAT and help our EOC staff learn as well

Q & A

Will I still need a separate login for EMSTAT?

No. Right now you need a login for the Portal and a separate one for EMSTAT. With the new version, you will only need one login. Once you access the Portal no further logins will be required to access EMSTAT.

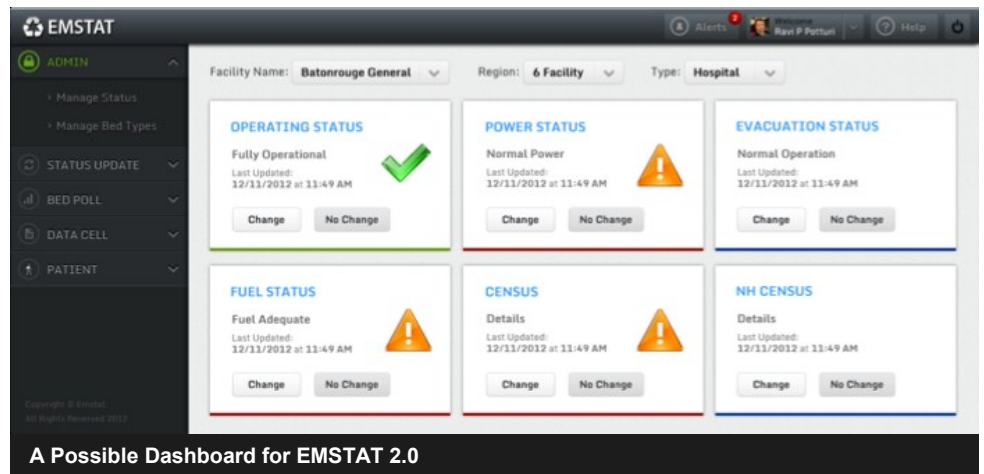
Is all of my data going to be there?

Yes. We are working on detailed data migration plans to ensure that your generator data, utility data, and other important variables are transitioned to the new database.

Will there be training on the new system?

Yes. We are planning to conduct on-site training sessions in every region in the state during the months of April, May and June.

The ESF 8 exercise scheduled for June 25th and 26th is an excellent opportunity to reinforce the training.



The New EMSTAT

An important reason to participate in the exercise is to get some experience with the new EMSTAT. As you might know, we have been planning version 2 for some time now, and we will have a finished version in late April.

We are planning to go around the state to introduce it and train hospitals and nursing homes, but the exercise gives you and your staff an opportunity to use it in a situation that will accurately mimic the requirements of a real disaster.

Some significant advantages of the new EMSTAT include:

- A new dashboard for facilities
 - ⇒ The new dashboard designs clearly show the compliance status of the facility relative to the reporting requirements in place for a particular event.
- Smart edits
- Unlike the existing version, the new version will “help” a facility with reporting power outages and generator use. It will ensure that the data is high quality and hopefully prevent multiple calls to facilities for information.
- Tighter integration with the ESF 8 Portal
 - ⇒ It will be single sign-on compliant meaning no separate logins
 - ⇒ It will feed data directly to several powerful analytics platforms now being deployed for ESF 8, including GIS.

How to Participate

Over the next few months, we will be sending out information on the exercise and the various ways your facility can participate.

At minimum, you can provide status reports during the exercise. You will receive a notification that will outline the requirements.

You can choose to assist by doing any or all of the following:

- At various points in the exercise, enter data about a power outage or the need for fuel for a generator.
- If you are in the hurricane risk area, you can plan to evacuate your patients by using the At Risk Registry
- You can help train the state staff by calling for assistance with reporting during the exercise.

Watch for future communications

In the coming weeks and months, we will be sending you more information about the exercise and how to participate.

If you have questions, please contact your DRC or send an email to esf8help@la.gov

ESF 8
628 North 4th Street
Room 934
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
225-342-3417

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about the exercise and the roles you might play.

225-342-3417

esf8help@la.gov

Contact Your DRC

Reach out to your DRC. They will be given more information about the exercise in the coming weeks.



SAVE THE DATE!
JUNE 25 AND 26